

**Preliminary Amendment of U.S. National Stage for International Application PCT/EP03/03711 filed April 10, 2003**

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 21-41 are currently pending in the instant application.

Applicants respectfully request that the amendments be entered in the specification. The amendments to the specification are of an editorial nature to provide headings required by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. No new matter has been entered by way of amendment to the specification.

The original claims, 1-20, have been cancelled and replaced with new claims 21-41 solely for the purpose of improving text and grammar and to place the claims in a form for ready examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The amendments have not been entered for any reason related to statutory requirements for a patent. New claims 21-41 have not been added in response to any rejection, or anticipation of any rejection related to the statutory requirements for a patent. Applicants respectfully submit that the scope of new claims 21-41 are no narrower than original claims 1-20. Applicants submit that new claims 21-41 are fully supported in the specification and that no new matter has been introduced.

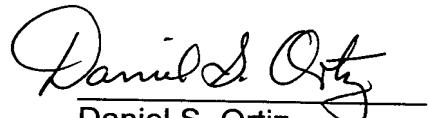
An Abstract of the Application has been submitted on a separate sheet numbered 44.

Favorable consideration of the application is respectfully requested.

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Prompt examination of the instant application in view of the  
amendments made herein is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enc.: 1. Page 44